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## MISSOURI HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

# Joe Aull

State Representative District 26

February 6, 2012

Mr. Julius Genachowski Chairman **Federal Communications Commission** 445 12<sup>th</sup> Street, SW Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: LightSquared Docket 11-109

Dear Mr. Chairman,

As you know, access to broadband is a powerful economic tool, especially for rural communities. Unfortunately, in a state like Missouri, we still have a number of counties where access is extremely limited.

I have heard from a both sides of the debate regarding the proposed LightSquared 4G LTE broadband network and potential interference with GPS devices, specifically those devices used in precision agriculture. I agree that prior to any commercial deployment of any new broadband network, the FCC must ensure that there is not widespread and harmful interference with existing technologies like GPS. This is not only true to protect precision agriculture, but for the aviation and defense industries.

However, from the news reports I have read, there seems to be guite a lot of disagreement regarding what constitutes "harmful" interference as well as whether recent testing was conducted correctly or utilizing "real-world" scenarios. It is time that the FCC conducts its own testing to ensure the process is

## **COMMITTEES**

Agri-Business Elementary & Secondary Education Special Standing Committee on Emerging Issues in Animal Agriculture Rural Community Development Joint Committee on Education comprehensive, open to observers and reflective of devices that are on the market.

The opportunity for a 4G LTE broadband network like LightSquared's, which includes \$14 billion in investment and thousands of new jobs across the country, is too important to not move toward finding and employing technical solutions to any interference problems.

I would ask that the FCC conduct a study and determine whether "harmful" interference actually occurs. We certainly don't want to hurt precision agriculture, but if we can advance broadband networking without doing harm, we need to know that.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,

Joe Aull

Missouri State Representative

District 026

Cc: Senator Claire McCaskill

Senator Roy Blunt

Representative Vicky Hartzler

Assistant Secretary Lawrence E. Strickling, National Telecommunications & Information Administration, United States Department of Commerce